Missions abroad work under the overall supervision of the Head of the Mission. They are assisted by the necessary supporting staff.

(b) On the basis of the information the Science Counsellors assemble and analyse, they submit periodical reports.

(c) The Missions in several countries have display windows which project India's achievements in various fields including Science & Technology.

Free flow of Technical Officers from one Technical Department to another

1610. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of departments have technical personnel who can function well in other technical departments;

(b) if so, whether opportunities are not being given to the technical departments as well as to technical officers to be benefited out of this scheme of transfer of personnel from one technical department to another either on voluntary basis or at the time of promotion; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when that barrier will be removed for free flow of technical personnel from one technical department to other; and

(d) in what manner Government propose to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not true that opportunities are not available to the technical personnel in technical departments to shift to other Ministries. Such lateral shifts, however, are not possible to the departments requiring highly specialised knowledge such as the Department of Atomic Energy, the Department of Space and the Deptt. of Defence Research and Development.

The applications of willing persons are freely forwarded when vacancies in other technical departments are notified Thus. there is no bar on the movement of technical personnel from one technical department to another.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Withholding of certain portion of DCR Gratuity while making payment

@1611. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government withholds Rs. 1000 from the payment of DCR Gratuity while making payment of the same to a retired Government employee on his retirement from service;

(b) whether there is any proposal to revise the amount being withheld at present;

(c) if so, what will be the new amount and what are the reasons for such withholding;

(d) whether Rs. 4000 instead of Rs. 1000 as permissible under rule at present has been withheld from certain retired employees of the CPWD, Electric Division-III, I. P. Estate, New Delhi during the year 1988-89;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when the said amount will be paid back to the concerned employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) As far as Central Government civilian employees governed by

@Previously Unstarred Question 1247 transferred from the 10th September, 1991.